

## **Dog Adoption Application**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your interest in adopting an animal from Brampton Animal Services. We would like to take a few minutes to explain our adoption program to you. Please read the below carefully before you proceed with completing the attached application form.

### **Adoption Questionnaire**

This application is completed to assist the staff in finding the most suitable home for our animals. Our decision will be based on the best match for the pet and the family. The first thing that you will need to do is to fill out a questionnaire telling us about yourself, your home, what (if any) experience you have with pets, how many people will live in the same house as the pet and other related questions. This information is gathered confidentially to assist our adoption counselors in selecting the right animal for you. Please take the time to complete the questionnaire. Once you have completed the application, an adoption counselor will process your application. An application will be deemed approved, declined, or pending. Please note that in the event of a pending application, the animal(s) of interest will not be placed on "hold".

In order to be considered for an adoption today you must be:

- At least 18 years of age
- All household members must meet the pet prior to adoption
- Provide valid identification with your current address
- Interact with the animal outside of its kennel

Please note if you have any questions or need assistance with this application please feel free to ask the staff for help at any time.

### **Health and Veterinary Care**

The Brampton Animal Shelter is a municipal pound; therefore we receive animals of all backgrounds and types with unknown histories. They may be sick or injured, have external or internal parasites, or be harbouring a virus that could lay dormant for weeks that will only surface when the virus reaches advanced stages or is triggered by some type of stress, such as moving to a new environment like your home. Stray animals are kept for a very short period of time before being placed for adoption. During the holding period, the animal is given a physical exam by a veterinarian, vaccinated (including the rabies vaccine if they are of age) and dewormed for intestinal parasites. If the animal is displaying signs of illness, it is treated during this time.

**Your adoption agreement allows you to bring your new pet to a Brampton veterinarian for a complete physical exam within four (4) days of adoption.** Participating Brampton veterinarians have generously agreed to provide this service free of charge. However, any additional services (such as stool samples, medication, future vaccinations, etc.) are extra costs that are **your responsibility**. Included with the adoption is a complimentary trial of pet insurance from *Pets Plus Us* which will be activated by our staff and will cover your pet for select illnesses and accidents as outlined on the insurance brochure for six weeks. There is no fee or obligation to continue this service once your coverage expires. **The plan does not cover any illnesses if the symptoms begin during the first 48 hours after your adoption.** Please read the brochure or ask a staff member if further details are required.

If the animal you adopted is found to be in poor health by the veterinarian, you have the option of returning it to the shelter for a full refund provided that you have proof that the animal was examined by a veterinarian (an invoice is preferred). **This must be done within two (2) weeks of the adoption. THE BRAMPTON ANIMAL SHELTER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY MEDICAL COSTS INCURRED AND WILL NOT PAY THEM.** If your animal is found to have a health problem but you do not wish to return it to the shelter, you are responsible for any costs incurred. You are also responsible for determining whether recommended treatments will be covered by your health plan. We recommend that you obtain an estimate, and call *Pets Plus Us*, before you decide whether or not to proceed with treatment.

## **Fleas**

Animals from the shelter have been checked for fleas upon arrival, and treated for fleas if necessary. Please be aware that it is very difficult to control fleas during the summer months given the high population of animals in the shelter. We recommend that you start a preventative flea control program in your home; your veterinarian can help you choose the type of program that is right for your pet. We cannot guarantee that the animal you are adopting is free of fleas and we are NOT responsible for any treatments required.

## **Spaying and Neutering**

Most animals for adoption are now already sterilized however if they're not, in some circumstances we will now place them into a 'foster to adopt' home. Our goal is to limit the amount of time the animal is in the shelter, so if your application is approved, you will be allowed to take the animal home unaltered with the promise to return for follow ups and for the sterilization surgery date. Please note that **spaying or neutering is mandatory under the City of Brampton By-Law 261-93, Section 4.2. and it must be completed – it is NOT optional** – and by fostering the animal you are agreeing to this, otherwise your application will be denied. Please note that throughout this time in foster care, Brampton Animal Services will remain the owner of the animal and will have the right to make any decisions in regards to the animals care; only after the formal adoption will ownership be transferred to that of the adopter.

## Microchip Implant

Your new pet will be given a permanent form of identification – a microchip. The microchip has a serial number that can be picked up by a scanner and allows us to find the owner more easily provided that the information is correct and current. A toll free phone number is provided at the bottom of the M4S Microchip Registration form. If at any time your personal information changes, call the phone number provided and M4S will change it free of charge. The microchip is ineffective if the information is not kept up-to-date.

## Refunds and Exchanges

We encourage you to carefully consider your decision to adopt before taking on the responsibility of pet ownership. Animals require a large investment of time and money in exchange for priceless rewards. It is very difficult for animals to adjust to new environments, and it can be stressful for an animal to be returned after adoption. For these reasons, **we do not offer any exchanges or refunds for any reason except for health problems diagnosed by a veterinarian during the first exam within 2 weeks of adoption.**

## Zoonotic Disease Risks

As previously mentioned, most of our animals have completely unknown histories. Animals have the potential to carry diseases or parasites that can be transmitted to humans (zoonotic diseases). These risks can be significant for immune-compromised individuals such as the elderly, HIV positive, those receiving steroid therapy or chemotherapy, and children less than 5 years of age. If a member of your household falls under one of these categories, please speak to your doctor prior to adopting an animal.

## Food

Most of the dogs at Brampton Animal Services are fed Royal Canin however some may be on a special diet (usually vet recommended) to maintain any noted health conditions. Following adoption, we recommend you consult your veterinarian as they can best evaluate the nutritional requirements for your individual pet. This may be based on several factors including weight, dental health, gastrointestinal health, etc. As you can see, ideal nutrition is not a simple decision! If the choice is made to switch your pet's diet, mix ½ of your new diet with ½ of your Royal Canin diet (or whichever diet you were sent home with following the adoption) for 7 days.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

### **Congratulatory package**

- You receive a free physical vet exam within the following 4 business days of your adoption.
- Page 3 lists the vet clinics within the City of Brampton that will ONLY honour your free exam.

### **Application package**

- There are no exchanges or refunds EXCEPT in the case of a major medical condition diagnosed within the first two weeks following the adoption. An invoice from the vet must be provided.
- Minor medical issues (such as upper respiratory, eye infection, etc.) may arise after the animal has left the shelter. As such, it is the responsibility of the adoptee to pay for any treatment required.

### **License (if applicable) & Microchip Form**

- The license tag identifies your animal as a registered municipal pet and MUST be affixed at all times. Every calendar year the license will need to be renewed and there is a \$5 replacement fee should the tag be lost or damaged. Please ensure your microchip information is up-to-date **at all times**. The microchip tag identifies the animal as a microchipped pet.

### **Invoice & Medical Report**

- Take your adoption invoice and the pet's medical report to your free physical veterinary exam - this is proof that you have adopted the dog from Brampton Animal Services.

### **Pets Plus Us**

- You get six weeks of free pet insurance that covers up to 80% of most medical costs up to \$500. The animal shelter will activate the insurance for you at the time of adoption; it will take approximately 48 hours to activate. There is no obligation to extend the coverage, however if you are interested in continuing your services, refer to the Pets Plus Us brochure for the various coverage packages that are available.

### **Food**

- Most of the dogs are fed Royal Canin which can be purchased at most pet stores. If the dog you adopted is on a special diet that supports any medical conditions, that food will usually only be carried at a veterinary clinic so you'll be required to reach out to them. If you do decide to switch brands, mix your food sample with your choice of pet food (1:1 ratio) so you won't upset their stomach.

**SECTION 1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Animal I.D.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact (Name & Phone Number): \_\_\_\_\_

*Pets Plus Us Voucher Number:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Staff Initial:* \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you adopted from Brampton Animal Services in the past?  Yes  No

2. Please list the following:  
 Number of adults in the household: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number and ages of the children: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Have your children been around dogs before?  Yes  No

4. Do you live in a :  House  Apt.  Condo

5. Do you:  Rent  Own  Live with Parents

*If you rent, please provide the name and phone number of your landlord/ superintendent/ management company.*

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Which member(s) of your family will be the animals' primary caregiver?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7. For whom are you adopting this pet?  Yourself  Gift

8. Who is your veterinarian?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

9. How much do you expect to spend within this animals' first year of adoption under your care (i.e. vaccines, food, and medical care)?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

10. How often are you prepared to take your pet to the veterinarian?  
 Once a year  As required

11. What type(s) of pet(s) do you own, or have you owned? *\*If you no longer own the animal, please specify what happened to the animal(s).*

Type/Breed	Age	Sex (M/F)	Fixed (Y/N)	Still Own*	Vaccine (Y/N)

12. Are there any family members with allergies to pets?  Yes  No  Unknown

*If yes, how will this affect your animal's lifestyle? (i.e. surrender, give away.)*

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Please tell us why you would like to adopt a pet from us. Check all that apply.

- Companion to a person
- Breeding
- For a school or business
- Companion to another pet
- For a barn
- For a special needs facility
- For a child
- For hunting
- For a retirement residence
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

14. If the pet you are considering adopting is not spayed/neutered, you will be required to have

this procedure done. Can you afford this responsibility?  Yes  No

15. Where will your pet stay while you are on vacation?

- Take with you  Friend babysit
- Hire a pet sitter  Boarding kennel
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

16. Have you ever had to surrender an animal to a Shelter or SPCA?  Yes  No

*If answered yes, what were the circumstances?*

\_\_\_\_\_

17. If you were unable to continue to provide a home for this dog, we require that you return him/her to the Brampton Animal Shelter.

**Please initial** \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 2

1. Do you plan to breed your new dog before spaying or neutering her/him?

- Yes  No

2. How much time do you and your family plan to spend with the dog each day?

- ½ hour  1 hour
- 2 hours  Greater than 2 hours

3. How active would you like your dog to be?

- Calm  Active  Very Active

4. How would you describe the activity level of your family?

- Calm  Not Very Active
- Quite Active  Very Active

5. How will your dog be exercised?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. How long will your dog be left alone each day?

- 0 hours  0-3 hours  3-6 hours
- 6-8 hours  8-10 hours  10+ hours

7. How much shedding of the dog's coat is acceptable to you?

- None  A little  Moderate  A lot

8. What is the size of your yard?

- No yard  Small  Medium  Large

9. Is your yard completely fenced:

- Yes  No

If the answer is yes, what type of fencing is used? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Where will you be keeping your dog when you are at home? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Where will you be keeping your dog when you are not at home or at night?  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you plan to crate train your dog?  
 Yes       No

If not, what other method do you plan to use?  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. What will you do if you need to move?  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. Do you plan to take your dog to training classes?  Yes       No

15. It may take your pet at least two weeks or more to adjust to its new home, especially if other pets are involved. Are you prepared to allow it this much time to adjust?  
 Yes       No

16. Please check off which behavioural problems, listed below are you willing to tolerate and work with:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barking              | <input type="checkbox"/> Excited behaviour | <input type="checkbox"/> Not leash trained    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Messing in the house | <input type="checkbox"/> Chewing           | <input type="checkbox"/> Separation anxiety   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depression           | <input type="checkbox"/> Dominance         | <input type="checkbox"/> Submissive urination |

If one of these behavioural problems arises, what steps will you take to work on the issues?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Note: adjustment issues may include: barking, house-soiling, chewing, running away and personality conflicts with the existing animal

### SECTION 3

By signing below, I certify that the information I have given is true and that I recognize that any misrepresentation of facts may result in losing the privilege of adopting a pet.

- I understand that Brampton Animal Services has the right to deny my request to adopt an animal.
- I understand that the animal of interest will not be held for any reason.
- I understand that a pending application does not guarantee an adoption.
- I authorize the investigation of all statements contained in this application.
- I understand that this application is the property of Brampton Animal Services.
- I will not sell the animal or profit from the adopted animal.
- I will spay or neuter the adopted animal, if not already done.
- I will keep the adopted animal up to date with annual vaccinations, including rabies.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The personal information on this form is collected under authority of Section 11 of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25. This information will be used for the purpose of adoption administration only. Questions about the collection of personal information should be directed to the Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator, City Clerk's Office, 2 Wellington St. W, L6Y 4R2.